



REED COLLEGE

First Semester Arabic
Fall 2009

Course Syllabus

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Meeting Time and Place: Mondays: 6:00 - 7:00 pm and Fridays: 5:00 – 6:00 pm
Eliot: 103

Required Materials:

1. Alif Baa with DVDs. Introduction to Arabic Letters and Sounds, 2nd ed. by Brustad et al.
2. Al-Kitaab fii Taallum al-Arabiyya with DVDsc. A Textbook for Beg Arabic: Part 1, 2nd ed. by Brustad et al.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

This course is intended as an introduction to Modern Standard Arabic language and cultures, with some exposure to the Tunisian dialect, including the fundamental communication skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing. The course is for true beginners.

The goal of first-year Arabic is to develop your proficiency while providing you with a context within which to use and practice what you are learning. Besides learning about the language, we will also be exploring various areas of the world where Arabic is spoken. Because total immersion in a language is the best way to learn that language, in class we will always use the Arabic words we have learned. Don't panic if you do not understand everything the instructor says. Come to class ready to listen and respond. Play by the rules – use Arabic!

Arabic Course's General Objectives:

The Arabic Course seeks to develop in the students the basic linguistic skills, analytical skills, and cultural and literary knowledge which will enable them to appreciate the

uniqueness of other cultures and to function in Arabic-speaking communities around the world. In all of its offerings, the Arabic Program seeks to support the ideals of a general liberal arts education.

First-Semester Arabic, meets the following Arabic Program learning objectives:

- Ability to understand spoken Arabic, read a variety of texts written in Arabic and communicate effectively in Arabic orally and in writing.
- Appreciation and knowledge of Arabic culture.
- Appreciation and knowledge of the Arabic-speaking world, cultures and literatures.
- Ability to respond in culturally appropriate ways to a variety of common situations in the target cultures.
- Ability to use state-of-the art technology to access realia in the target language.
- Knowledge of phonology, morphology, syntax and semantics of the Arabic language.

This course also meets the following broad learning objectives:

- Ability to think and read critically.
- Ability to communicate efficiently orally and in writing.
- Appreciation and knowledge of grammar and linguistic concepts.
- Ability to use state-of-the-art technology to access cultural documents and multimedia resources.

This course also exposes students to knowledge about values and ethical issues

- Appreciation of diversity and difference.
- Awareness of language as a living product of culture and vice versa.
- Ability to apply the knowledge and skills learned to situations outside the academic setting.

Basic Rules of Courtesy

- Please turn off all cell phones when entering the classroom.
- Do not arrive habitually late nor leave habitually early.
- Have your own class materials with you each day, including the textbook.

Academic Honesty:

You are bound by the guidelines stated in the “Academic Honesty” brochure.

N.B.:

- Skipping some of the drills in the book does not mean that you do not have to study them. You must study all the drills and you can ask the instructor for any help (The drills that will be skipped are only those that require the students to practice writing or speaking by themselves).
- This course syllabus is subject to change if needed.
- The second book *Al-Kitaab Fii Taallum Al-Arabiyya (Part One)* will be used if the time for covering the first book was sufficient and if only the students get accustomed to writing, reading, speaking and listening to Arabic.
- Students will be asked to perform some sketches where they act out or create a situation.
- Students may be asked to present a project at the end of the semester.

Syllabus Overview **(Day by Day Plan)**

Sat., Sep. 05: **In class:** Introduction / discussing course objectives & syllabus.

Homework Due:

- Buy *Alif Baa* and read the preface pp. vii-x and the introduction pages 1-8.

Fri., Sat. 11: **In class:** Practice letters and sounds, practice transliteration, and learn the greetings “*saying hello*” from the DVD.

Homework Due:

- Study the alphabet chart p.1 and listen to how the letters are pronounced in the introduction section on your DVD.
- Study the transliteration chart on p.7.
- Prepare pages 9-24.

Mon., Sep. 14: **Unit One**
In class: Drills / Arabic dialects / Culture

Homework Due:

- Study pages 9-24, do the listening exercises on your DVD, practice writing the letters in your book in your book, and watch the videos on writing the letters.
- Hand in the assigned Drills
- Prepare pages 28-39

Fri., Sep. 18: **Unit Two**
In class: Drills / practice writing & connecting the letters / dictations.

Homework Due:

- Do the listening exercises on your DVD, practice writing the letters in your book in your book, and watch the videos on writing the letters.
- Hand in the assigned drills.
- Prepare pages 40-50

Mon., Sep. 21: Units Two & Three

In class: Drills / practice reading / Watching Dialogue of Unit 2

Homework Due:

- Do the listening exercises on your DVD, practice writing the letters in your book, and watch the videos on writing the letters.
- Hand in the assigned drills and study the vocabulary on your DVD.

Fri., Sep. 25: Unit Three

In class: Drills / practice reading

Homework Due:

- Study pages 40-50, do the listening exercises on your DVD, practice writing the letters in your book, and watch the videos on writing the letters.
- Hand in the assigned drills and study the vocabulary on your DVD.
- Prepare pages 51-66

Mon, Sep. 28: Unit Four

In class: Drills / dictation.

Homework Due:

- Study pages 51-66, do the listening exercises on your DVD, practice writing the letters in your book, and watch the videos on writing the letters.
- Hand in the assigned drills and study the vocabulary on your DVD.
- Prepare pages 67 - 85

Fri., Oct. 02: Unit Five

In class: Drills / practice reading

Homework Due:

- Study pages 67-85, do the listening exercises on your DVD, practice writing the letters in your book in your book, and watch the videos on writing the letters.
- Hand in the assigned drills
- Prepare pages 86 - 102

Mon., Oct. 05: Unit Six

In class: Drills / dictation

Homework Due:

- Study pages 86-102, do the listening exercises on your DVD, practice writing the letters in your book in your book, and watch the videos on writing the letters.
- Hand in the assigned drills.
- Prepare pages 103 - 120

Fri., Oct. 09: Unit Seven

In class: Drills / practice reading.

Homework Due:

- Study pages 103-120, do the listening exercises on your DVD, practice writing the letters in your book, and watch the videos on writing the letters.
- Hand in the assigned drills.
- Prepare pages 121-130

Mon., Oct. 12: Unit Eight

In class: Drills / dictation.

Homework Due:

- Study pages 121-130, do the listening exercises on your DVD, practice writing the letters in your book, and watch the videos on writing the letters.
- Hand in the assigned drills.
- Prepare pages 131-140

Fri., Oct. 16: Unit Nine

In class: Drills / practice reading

Homework Due:

- Study pages 131-140, do the listening exercises on your DVD, practice writing the letters in your book, and watch the videos on writing the letters.
- Hand in the assigned drills.
- Prepare pages 141 - 168

Mon., Oct. 26: Unit Ten

In class: Drills / dictation.

Homework Due:

- Study pages 141-168, do the listening exercises on your DVD, practice writing the letters in your book, and watch the videos on writing the letters.

Fri., Oct. 30: In class: General Revision / Dictation / Reading.

Homework Due:

- Read the preface of *Al-Kitaab Fii Taallum Al-Arabiyya* (Part One) pp. xi – xviii

Mon., Nov. 02: Al-Kitaab Fii Taallum Al-Arabiyya (Part One)

Unit One

In class: Listening to the story on the DVD / Culture / Vocabulary / Drills.

Homework Due:

- Study the unit and do the listening exercises on your DVD.
- Hand in the assigned drills.

Fri., Nov. 06: Unit One

In class: Vocabulary / Colloquial / Drills / Practice reading.

Homework Due:

- Study the unit and do the listening exercises on your DVD.
- Hand in the assigned drills.

Mon., Nov. 09: Unit One

In class: Drills / dictation.

Homework Due:

- Study the unit and do the listening exercises on your DVD.
- Hand in the assigned drills.

Fri., Nov. 13:

Unit One

In class: Drills / practice reading.

Homework Due:

- Study the unit and do the listening exercises on your DVD.
- Hand in the assigned drills.
- Prepare pages 18-34

Mon., Nov. 16:

Unit Two

In class: Listening to the story on the DVD / Vocabulary / Culture / Grammar / Drills.

Homework Due:

- Study the unit and do the listening exercises on your DVD.
- Hand in the assigned drills.

Fri., Nov. 20:

Unit Two

In class: Drills / Grammar / dictation.

Homework Due:

- Study the unit and do the listening exercises on your DVD.
- Hand in the assigned drills.

Mon., Nov. 23:

Unit Two

In class: Drills / Grammar / reading.

Homework Due:

- Study the unit and do the listening exercises on your DVD.
- Hand in the assigned drills.

Fri., Nov. 27:

Unit Two

In class: Drills / Grammar / dictation.

Homework Due:

- Study the unit and do the listening exercises on your DVD.
- Hand in the assigned drills.

Mon., Nov. 30: Unit Three

In class: Listening to the story on the DVD / Vocabulary / Drills.

Homework Due:

- Study the unit and do the listening exercises on your DVD.
- Hand in the assigned drills.

Fri., Dec. 04: Unit Three

In class: Drills / Grammar / Vocabulary / dictation.

Homework Due:

- Study the unit and do the listening exercises on your DVD.
- Hand in the assigned drills.

Mon., Dec. 07: Unit Three

In class: Drills / dictation.

Homework Due:

- Study the unit and do the listening exercises on your DVD.
- Revise what you learned and enjoy the winter break.